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HE WENT TOO FAR

Baby Elephant Suffered for His Mischievous Prank.

Trick That Was Too Much for Mother's Patience to Endure Reward—ed by the Equivalent to a Sound Spanking.

In a recent exchange it is stated that elephants are amazingly like human beings in the way they discipline their young. In proof it tells an amusing incident seen by a French traveler in an extensive lumber yard in Burma.

While the adult elephants were faithfully at work the youngsters played about the yard. The elephant that attracted the traveler's particular attention was hauling, in her chain harness, huge tree trunks from the bank of the river. She had a heavy load, a fact that her offspring did not realize. Bent on playing a prank, he wound his little trunk around one of the chain traces and pulled back with all his strength.

Conscious of the suddenly increased weight, the mother stopped and looked around. She saw the youngster and shook her head solemnly, but, paying no further heed to his teasing, bent again to her work. Meanwhile the little rascal with his mischievous trunk had loosened the ring that fastened the traces to the load.

While the mother was straining to set her burden in motion again, her mischievous son pulled with all his might against her, and pulled so steadily that she was quite unaware that she had been disconnected from her load. Then, suddenly, the youngster let go. Naturally enough, the mother was thrown to her knees and her driver hurried in a wide circle from her back.

The culprit sought a huge wood-pile that seemed to offer him at least a temporary protection. His mother, with her iron harness clanging noisily behind her, kept close at his heels.

Although the little one's greater agility gained some space for him at the corners, his mother eventually overtook him. The first blow of her trunk drew from him a bawl of pain. At the second he sank, quite humbled, to his knees; and then he endured without a murmur, although with many tears, a sound thrashing. Finally the mother let him up. With tears still streaming and with drooping trunk he took his disconsolate way out of the yard.

The little fellow had won the complete sympathy of the observer. Consequently he was overjoyed to witness during the noon hour a touching reconciliation. The mother did all she could to comfort the penitent little sterner; she caressed him with her trunk, cuddled him up against her, and looked at him as if to say "You still have a mother who loves you."—Our Dumb Animals.

Dogs in a Different World.

It is widely known that fishes and other lower vertebrates possess numerous types of sense organs quite unlike anything in our own bodies, and it is quite impossible for us to form any conception of what the world appears like to these animals except insofar as their sensory equipment is similar to our own.

Even the companionable dog, who responds so sympathetically and intelligently to our moods, lives in a very different world. Recent experiments have shown that his sense of vision is very imperfect, especially for details of form, and everybody knows the inconceivable delicacy of the hound's sense of smell. With us vision is the dominant sense, and our mental imagery is largely in terms of things seen. Even a blind man will say, "I see how it is," when he comprehends a demonstration.

What sort of a world is it to a dog, whose finest experiences and chief interests are in terms of colors?—C. Judson Herdick, in *Natural History*.

Not Responsible.

The justice of the peace of a certain town was a hardened old bachelor, notoriously averse to marriage. His most intimate friend was to be married and insisted that he perform the ceremony. After much persuasion the justice consented and the affair went on smoothly until the last interrogation, "Do you take this woman to be your lawful wedded wife?" was asked in a pathetic tone.

"I do," was the response.

"Then I pronounce you man and wife, but remember, Jack, you asked me to do this. Don't ever blame me for it."

Didn't Amount to Much Then.

Elmum was boasting to his younger brother about how smart he was when he was a year old. "I could walk and run and jump," he bragged, "and sing a song."

"An' what was I doing then?" inquired Willie. "Did I run and jump, too?"

"You couldn't do nothing," was Elmum's crushing reply. "When I was a year old you was nowhere; you was just a speck of dust."

Illustrating a Point.

While going to church I was detained by a friend, and when I arrived there I was late. For the preacher was already speaking. At the time of my entrance he was saying, "He who sinneth shall fall," when suddenly I tripped over a cane which a man had carelessly put out in the aisle. I went to my seat, red as a beet, among broad smiles from the audience.—Exchange.

FOILED PLAN FOR ALLIANCE

How Bismarck Frustrated Negotiations Which Had Been Opened Between France and Austria.

An incident from Mr. C. G. Robertson's life of Bismarck throws interesting light on the methodical way in which Bismarck worked out his state policies. It concerns the negotiations opened between France and Austria after 1866 for an alliance against Prussia. Emperor Francis Joseph had emerged from the Seven Weeks' war desirous of revenge and with substantial forces still intact. Napoleon met Francis Joseph at Salzburg, and a few weeks later the Austrian emperor traveled to France with his military suite and gave orders that the imperial train should stop nowhere on German soil, and, in particular, that it should pass the South German courts at night in order to avoid embarrassing interviews.

Nothing marred the monarch's peace of mind until, in the dead of night, the train approached the German frontier near Baden-Baden; there it suddenly came to a standstill. The aide-de-camp, on inquiring for the reason, was shown a lonely figure wrapped in a dark military cloak standing in a pouring rain. The stranger wanted to speak to the Emperor Francis Joseph. Who was he? It was King William of Prussia!

Thus, on a dark September night in 1867, did the emperor of Austria and the king of Prussia meet for the first time since Koniggratz. The interview lasted several hours and took place in the rear carriage of the imperial train. What passed is not known, but the writer is satisfied that William of Prussia asked Francis Joseph not to betray the German cause, and warned him of the forthcoming Franco-German war. On reaching Paris Emperor Francis Joseph proved adamant to the most tempting offers of alliance. The incident remained a secret; a few local papers referred to it as merely a slight mishap to the imperial train!—Youth's Companion.

NAME MEANS WHITE ISLAND

Probable Explanation of Why Island of Great Britain Has Been Called "Albion."

"Albion" is the oldest name by which the island of Great Britain was known to the Greeks and Romans. Great Britain and Ireland were known by the general appellation of the Britannie Islands, while the former was designated by that particular name of Albion or Alveion, and the latter by that of Ierne, Iouernia or Erin. Caesar does not use the word Albion; his name for England was Britannia. Pliny says: "The name of the island was 'Albion,' the whole set of islands being called Britannie." The word "Albion" is still the only name by which the Gaels of Scotland designate that country; and the word signifies in the Gaelic language, white or fair island. The word "alb" itself is not now in use in Gaelic, but is probably the same root that we find in the Latin adjective "albus," and in the word "Alps." The name of Albion was probably given to England by the Gaels of the opposite coast, who could not fail to be struck by the chalky cliffs that characterized the nearest part of Kent. Some authors derive it from Albion, son of Neptune by Alpharitie, who according to the fabulous story went into Britain, established a kingdom and first introduced astrology and the art of building ships. He was killed at the mouth of the Rhone with stones thrown by Jupiter, because he opposed the passage of Hercules.

Left the Secretary Guessing.

The following story is told of the late Joseph Miller, the "poet of the Sierras." A certain club desired the poet to address an annual meeting, for which an elaborate program had been prepared. The secretary wrote a letter to Miller, telling him of the purpose of the gathering and requesting his co-operation. In due time there came an answer from the poet. It was in his own hand and covered four pages. In vain the secretary puzzled over the manuscript. He passed it on to the president, the board of directors and the members in turn, but all failed to decipher the scrawl. The question before the club was, "Has Miller accepted or has he declined?" The secretary finally sent the following note to the poet: "My Dear Mr. Miller—Your letter received, but I have been unable to determine whether you have accepted or declined our invitation. If you will be present on the date mentioned, will you kindly make a cross at the bottom of this letter? If it will be impossible for you to appear, will you kindly draw a circle?" In due time the letter came back; but the secretary could not decide whether the poet had drawn a cross or a circle!

Bulgaria Land of Roses.

If one visits the rose fields of Bulgaria in the early hours of a June morning he will find the peasant folk busy gathering roses. Everyone who can goes to the fields to pick roses. The picturesque costumes amid the blooms of roses look very beautiful to one standing on a hilltop overlooking the sea of flowers.

The roses are gathered while the dew is still fresh upon them, because the roses yield more attar if gathered before the heat of the sun dries out the leaves. As the baskets are filled with open and half-open buds and blossoms they are taken to the distillery nearby, where the attar is distilled.

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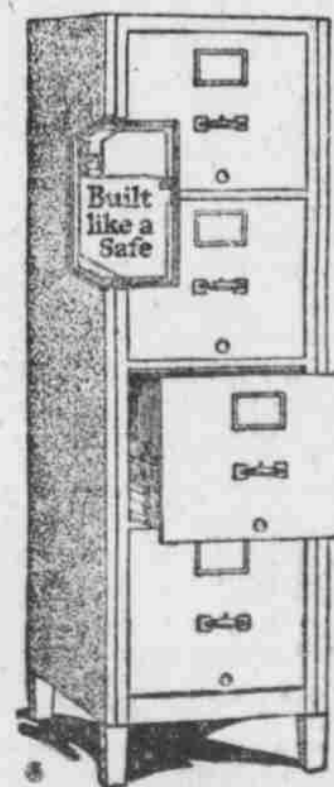
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